

Next week, the City of Waterbury will recognize Mr. Xhemal Dani as the 2015 Albanian Mayor of the Day. On that day, the double headed eagle flag will fly over Waterbury City Hall, and we will celebrate the contributions and accomplishments of the Albanian community over the past fifty years. The AACC has been instrumental in bringing our community closer together through religious and non-religious events including festivals, picnics, and charity dinners. Regularly taught Albanian language, culture, and history lessons at the center highlight the rich and vibrant heritage of the Albanian community.

The Albanian-American Community Center's mission began fifty years ago when a small committee organized to advance an environment where religious and social activities could thrive. Through strong work ethic and fundraising efforts, the organization, then-known as the Albanian American Moslem Community, was able to build a new mosque and bring an Imam to serve the City of Waterbury and the surrounding region. In 1969, construction began on the current mosque located on Raymond Street, allowing the Albanian-American Community Center to expand its membership and services to the community.

Under the leadership of President Visar Tasimi, the AACC has strengthened its Scholarship Program, making college more affordable for youth and their families. Since the fund's establishment in 2012, over \$10,000 has been awarded for higher education scholarships. I was pleased to be a part of the scholarship reception this summer and meet the talented recipients.

To the members and leadership of the AACC, thank you for your tireless efforts to encourage friendships and unity among all Albanian-Americans and educate the public about your traditions and culture. Your achievements are a true testament to the positive impact diversity can bring to our community. I am proud to represent you in Congress.

Congratulations to the Board of Directors, members, volunteers, and all who have helped organize the anniversary celebration. I look forward to many more years of your continued success.

TRIBUTE TO KEVIN COONEY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate longtime anchorman Kevin Cooney of KCCI-TV in Des Moines. After 33 years at KCCI and a lifetime dedicated to journalism, Kevin has decided it's time to put down the notes, turn off the teleprompter and enjoy retirement.

Since 1982, Kevin has been a constant figure in Iowa's living rooms, bringing us the news. During that time, he has covered some of Iowa's most important news stories ranging from the catastrophic floods of 1993 to interviewing President Clinton at the White House on the day of the Oklahoma City bombing. His wide range of knowledge on the issues of the day and his ability to captivate large audiences are second to none.

As an Iowa native Kevin has always had a unique perspective on issues Iowans care

about the most. His passion and genuine love of reporting the news is clear. He has earned the respect of those all across Iowa's media for his professionalism as well as his knack for making those around him better. Kevin is a leader in the truest sense of the word and an ambassador for all Iowans, they have counted on him for breaking news the last 33 years and he has delivered.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Kevin on his retirement as one of the most trusted faces in Iowa news broadcasting. His unwavering support for the state of Iowa and his commitment to providing news stories with integrity is a testament to his character. I am proud to represent him, his family and his fellow colleagues in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Kevin on this incredible milestone and wishing him nothing but the best in his retirement.

RECOGNIZING MARGE LOZINAK LAWRENCE

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Marge Lozinak Lawrence of Springfield for her service to our country during the conflict in Korea. Marge was a nurse in Korea, joining the cadet nursing program for \$15 a month. She cared for wounded soldiers and did her best to save lives. Marge will be honored tonight at the Delaware County Veterans Memorial Association Annual Dinner with the 2015 DCVMA Freedom Medal. It's a fine tribute for someone who has served our nation and our warfighters overseas.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK TAKAI

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. TAKAI. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, November 18, I was absent from the House due to illness. Due to my absence, I am not recorded on any legislative measures for the day. I would like the record to reflect how I would have voted had I been present for legislative business.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on Roll Call 634, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1210) Portfolio Lending and Mortgage Access Act; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3189) Fed Oversight Reform and Modernization Act.

I would have voted "yes" on Roll Call 635, the Motion to Recommit with Instructions for the Portfolio Lending and Mortgage Access Act.

I would have voted "no" on Roll Call 636, the Portfolio Lending and Mortgage Access Act.

I would have voted "yes" on Roll Call 637, the Reforming CFPB Indirect Auto Financing Guidance Act.

RECOGNIZING JOLIET CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL'S ANNUAL VET- ERAN CEREMONY

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Joliet Central High School and its Veterans Ceremony.

On Friday, November 6, 2015, Joliet Central High School hosted its 5th Annual Veterans Ceremony to recognize the sacrifice of alumni, faculty, and community members who have served in the armed forces.

This year, Joliet Central High School honored the following veterans:

Joseph Berman; Charles Muller; Bill Thorns; Ted Micci; Felix Pasteris; Dan Ursitti; Edward Mena; Christo Dragatsis; Jerald Brazeal; Donald Boyer; Gregory E. Warren; Larry Musson; Frank Varman; Larry Evert; and Hank Pillard.

I would like to commend Joliet Central High School for recognizing our veterans and I join the students, faculty, and administrators in thanking them for their service.

IN RECOGNITION OF DONNA AND MICHAEL BARBETTI, RECIPIENTS OF THE 2015 SAM AND JANE CALI STAR AWARD FROM THE BROAD- WAY THEATRE LEAGUE OF NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2015

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Donna and Michael Barbetti, recipients of the 2015 Sam and Jane Cali Star Award from the Broadway Theatre League of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

The Broadway Theatre of Northeastern Pennsylvania was established in 1959 by the late Benno and Gertrude Levy. The Levy's love for theatre stirred their desire to bring Broadway to Scranton, thus providing access to this unique American art form to the citizens of Northeastern Pennsylvania. Broadway Theatre was blessed with a great board president for many years, the late Sam Cali, whose dedication and support moved the organization into the new millennium.

Each year, the Sam and Jane Cali Star Award is presented to a distinguished community leader who has demonstrated exemplary dedication and service to the arts in northeastern Pennsylvania. Donna and Michael Barbetti are longtime patrons of the arts and were jointly chosen for the award by a committee that wished to recognize their history of support.

Donna and Michael Barbetti are residents of the City of Scranton. Donna is a Registered Dietician with a Master's Degree from Marywood in Food and Nutrition. In addition to her involvement with the Broadway Theatre League, Donna is the President of the Lackawanna County Women's Commission and is a board member of the Pennsylvania Women's Commission. She also is a board member of St. Francis of Assisi Kitchen and the Scranton Area Foundation, and she is on the Advisory